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RABBIT MARANVILLE
IS NOT A HOLDOUT.
Braves' Shortstop Says There is No Foundation for Report.

During the current week a fairly good line should be had on the number of baseball athletes of the two major league families willing to gladden the hearts of their employers by sending along their signed contracts. Rumors are flying about more or less thick and similarly fast concerning various players and their attitude in the matter of a strike. How much is all wool and how much shoddy is one of those things that are left in the realm of the unknown.

For one thing, Rabbit Maranville, wintering at his home in Springfield, is not aware that he is a holdout as reported here. As to whether or not the pernicious activity of the Players' Fraternity, expressed in the copious verbiage of one David F. Fitts, the Rabbit in the formality of signing is something else. The Rabbit, like other members of the frat, is mum on the subject, at least for the present.

At any rate, the Rabbit has made it known that there is no foundation for the report that he is a holdout.

On Thursday it is expected that Fitts himself will go to Boston for the purpose of holding a confab with the major league players as are residing in the city and are members of the Fraternity. The discussion of wages and means of going ahead with the threatened rupture between the players and disgraced baseball is the rumored reason for the conference.

USED TO FAKE FIGHTS.
Zimmerman and Ritchie Were Congenial Scorpions.

When Heine Zimmerman and Lew Ritchie were together on the Cuba tour they took a lot of time in having fake fights. They had the art of hitting each other without hurting, yet, at the same time, making the blow sound like the crack of a steel hammer. Both were adepts in the knack of falling with a thud. Often they would practice the fight in the solitude of their hotel room and other members of the team have opened the door in time to see the two men, Zimmerman and Ritchie, fall headlong into the fireplace.

Finally they got so they would stage the scraps in public. They would wait until a man happened to pass and then started arguing. Bad words would follow, and finally a fair sized crowd would be attracted. Before long one or the other would land a terrific punch, knocking the second member of the pair to the ground. Then, on the cement sidewalk, and the crowd would scatter to the four winds, being afraid of a pinch.

It takes a clever scorpion to fall with a crash to a marble floor without injury, but both Ritchie and Heine could do it to perfection. If they had a few persons into beating it from the seat of danger they would consider they had a profitable day of it. Of the two men, Heine was perhaps the stronger and more powerful, but they were up things in the long run—the falls being about 50-50.

Waterbury—Mr. and Mrs. Edward O'Connell gave a company dance to their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wheeler O'Connell, in Temple hall Monday night. The couple were married in Spokane, Wash., Jan. 3, and will spend a portion of their honeymoon in the city. Mr. O'Connell was born in Spokane, Wash., Jan. 3, and will spend a portion of their honeymoon in the city. Mr. O'Connell was born in Spokane, Wash., Jan. 3, and will spend a portion of their honeymoon in the city.

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NEW PHASE IN BASEBALL STRIFE

President David L. Fultz Has Had Conference With Samuel Gompers—Ban Johnson Believes Players Will Not Carry Out Their Strike Intention.

New York, Jan. 15.—A new phase of the threatened strike of the Baseball Players' Fraternity developed here today when it was learned that Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and President David L. Fultz of the players' organization, had been in conference relative to the proposed action of the fraternity members in refusing to sign 1917 baseball contracts until the minor league managers should grant requests made by the players.

Just as he was leaving for Washington, Gompers was advised that he had been in conference with Fultz several times within the past few weeks and that the latest conversation occurred today. When asked if the fraternity was a member of the labor federation, he replied:

"I have been in close touch," he continued, "with the officers of the Baseball Players' Fraternity for some little time now, and while the players' organization is not affiliated with us as yet I am in full sympathy with their requests for action, and they have my moral support. I am deeply interested in the welfare of the ball players and they have my support in any action that they may see fit to take in order to better existing conditions. This is all that I care to say at this time."

President B. B. Johnson of the American League, arrived late today from Chicago, where he had been on a heavy snowstorm. He said he had come to attend the meeting of the schedule committee and ordered to remain several days. The American League executive said he did not care to talk about the players' strike but that if it eventuated, the American League had enough players under contract to start the season and that he would be glad to fill any vacancies that might exist.

"I do not think," he said, "that the players of the major leagues will carry out their intention to strike but if they do we will be prepared to meet the emergency and will go right on playing baseball as usual. It is my opinion that if the major leagues do strike it will be a violation of the contract and will be a violation of the contract and will be a violation of the contract."

Johnson also said he was not in favor of the plan to divide the proceeds of the players' share of the world series money among any except the competing club players.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL

MARKET WAS NARROW.
United States Steel Was the Most Active Issue in the List.

New York, Jan. 15.—Prices tended moderately upward today, but trading was very narrow and the turnover was not so active as on previous days. The market was mostly limited to erstwhile favorites, except rails, which were dull at all times. The feature of the day being a 4-1-4 point advance in Long Island, usually one of the most inactive issues in the list.

U. S. Steel, which again furnished its customary large percentage to the strong operation, rose 1-1/2 points, but closed at a net gain of 3-4 of a point. Other industrials, equipments and munitions moved without marked change. United States Steel Corporation (the foreign company) which made a belated advance of 4-1-2 points from last Saturday's setback was recorded by U. S. Rubber on a more decided recovery of 2-1/2 points. The dividend policy in connection with the new bond issue, but Central Leather was heavy with Gulf States Steel, which advanced 1-1/2 points. Mackay and Mackay companies.

Metals as a group were firm to strong, being supported by higher quotations for refined copper, with concurrent advances in such by-products as tin, zinc, lead and silver. Domestic orders for copper, running into the second quarter of the year, were said to be under consideration. The market for the week-end, especially the very favorable bank statement, which caused a shading in the price of the bond market. The factors making for more cheerful speculative sentiment. The uncertainty of the international situation, however, was indicated by a slight easing of sterling and heaviness in rates on Berlin and Vienna, neither, however, approaching the level of the previous week.

Western railway terminals reported larger tonnage in consequence of the lifting of embargoes and an increase in available equipment. Firmness of international issues contributed to the better tone of the bond market. U. S. sales (par value) aggregated \$1575,000. U. S. bonds were unchanged on call.

STOCKS

The following is a summary of the transactions on the New York Stock Exchange, Jan. 15, 1917.

Stock	High	Low	Close
Alcoa	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Aluminum	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Sugar	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Tobacco	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Wire	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Zinc	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Steel	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Copper	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Lead	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Tin	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Silver	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Gold	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Platinum	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Palladium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Iridium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Rhodium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Osmium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Selenium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Tellurium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Vanadium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Zirconium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Niobium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Manganese	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Chromium	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Cobalt	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Nickel	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Iron	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Steel	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Am. Copper	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
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